

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 08789 311352Z

43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 /087 W

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R 311040Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8874

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KN, KS, US, IR

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO PANMUNJOM INCIDENT

REF: STATE 211862

1. PANMUNJOM INCIDENT COVERED FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN PERSIAN LANGUAGE PRESS. THESE REPORTS WERE REPRINTS OF PRO-WESTERN WIRE SERVICE (REUTERS, AP, UPI) DISPATCHES AND PICTURES. UP TO PRESENT THERE HAS BEEN NO COMMENTARY

FROM LOCAL SOURCES.

2. FRENCH LANGUAGE PAPER, JOURNAL TEHRAN, CONTINUES TO CARRY BRIEF AFP REPORTS ON US-NORTH KOREA TENSION.

3. THE TWO ENGLISH LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS, KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL AND TEHRAN JOURNAL, HAVE ALSO RELIED ON INDIVIDUAL OR COMBINED WIRE SERVICE REPORTS FOR THEIR COVERAGE. SAMPLE HEADLINES INCLUDE: "NORTH KOREAN ATTACK INTO NEUTRAL ZONE," (TEHRAN JOURNAL), AND "NORTH KOREA 'REGRETS' OFFICERS' DEATHS" (KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL). IN ADDITION, KAYHAN REPRINTED

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GUARDIAN ARTICLE BY JOHN GITTINGS ENTITLED

"COMMUNICATIONS GAP BETWEEN THE KOREAS" IN WHICH HE
REPORTS ON HIS VISIT TO PANMUJOM EARLIER THIS YEAR
AS A GUEST OF NORTH KOREA. THIS WEEK KAYHAN ALSO
REPRINTED SMALL PORTION OF EDITORIAL FROM THE WALL
STREET JOURNAL ON INCIDENT.

4. IN MEETING ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, MFA WORKING LEVEL
OFFICERS IN PASSING EXPRESSED REGRETS AT US DEATHS
AND EXPRESSED WHAT APPEARS TO BE BASIC GOI VIEW THAT NORTH KOREANS
ARE BEING OBSTREPEROUS FOR THEIR OWN POLITICAL ENDS.

5. SHOULD LOCAL COMMENTARY ON PANMUNJOM INCIDENT
APPEAR IN FUTURE PRESS COVERAGE EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

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